

help mothers and their children receive the child support that is owed to them. Cutting funding to States for child support enforcement is obviously moving in the wrong direction.

As Members of Congress we cannot continue to allow ill-timed and badly targeted tax cuts for the wealthy while at the same time cutting government programs that help people improve the quality of their lives and their wellbeing.

If we continue along this path we will be shortchanging our children, our grandchildren and their children to come. They will inherit a government and a country that turned its back on the people who needed them most and they will be forced to pick up the pieces.

We cannot let this happen. I am committed to serving the people of the Second District of Maryland and I will not support legislation such as this that will negatively impact my constituents or the United States as a whole.

This legislation is just plain wrong and I urge my colleagues to oppose the bill.

VETERANS DAY COMMEMORATION AT DODONA MANOR

HON. FRANK R. WOLF

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, November 18, 2005

Mr. WOLF. Mr. Speaker, I was honored to participate in Veterans Day observances held at the George C. Marshall International Center at Dodona Manor in Leesburg, Virginia.

The commemoration was organized by U.S. Army retired Colonel Gerhard L. Jacobson and featured U.S. Army retired Lieutenant General Frank A. Camm as the keynote speaker. I would like to share for our colleagues the stirring remarks by General Camm.

VETERANS DAY SPEECH

NOVEMBER 11, 2005

Thank you, Jake . . . Mr. Price, fellow veterans and American citizens . . . as a descendant of the Rector family on nearby Goose Creek, I am proud to join you here at Dodona Manor, the home of one of our greatest veterans, General George Marshall, in paying tribute to the service of America's veterans.

This is the day we remember our debt to those who've worn the uniform of the United States. This is the day we thank and honor ALL who have served honorably in the military—in wartime or peacetime. We honor them for their patriotism, their love of country, and their willingness to serve and sacrifice for the common good. And we thank them for their service, expressing our appreciation of their contributions to national security, and recognizing that all who served have sacrificed and done their duty. Today, all veterans can be certain that the Nation they served and the people they defended are grateful.

It is appropriate, indeed, to observe Veterans Day here at Dodona Manor, the home of General Marshall, who was born just 125 miles from here on New Year's Eve 125 years ago. . . Having lived next door to General Marshall in Washington in 1938, having seen him speak at West Point, and having served in the Army's War Plans Division that he had headed 20 years before, I've been inspired by numerous accounts of this man whom President Roosevelt considered to be the Pershing of World War II and whom Presi-

dent Truman said was the greatest military man the Nation ever produced.

General Marshall's 50 years of public service epitomize the selfless service so distinctive of our veterans. . . After serving General Pershing in and after World War I, General Marshall commanded troops in China, revamped officer training at Fort Benning, became Army Chief of Staff and exemplified selfless service in his gracious acceptance of President Roosevelt's keeping him in Washington during World War II instead of according to his desire to command troops in Europe. . . He gave selfless service again when heading toward well-deserved retirement in 1945. . . He had just entered Dodona Manor when a telephone call came from President Truman asking him to forego his first vacation in years and devote many months as a special presidential envoy to China. . . He extended his selfless service again and again when he became Truman's Secretary of State from 1947 to 49 creating the Marshall Plan. . . and when he shortly thereafter accepted President Truman's request to take over the American Red Cross. . . After the Korean War began in 1950, President Truman interrupted General Marshall's vacation at a Michigan fishing camp to call him back to further selfless service in Washington as Secretary of Defense. . . Meanwhile, Senator Joe McCarthy was castigating George Marshall for treason, calling him a man (quote) "guilty of an immense conspiracy" and making (quote) "common cause with Stalin"—General Marshall refused to respond, saying, (quote) "If I have to explain at this point that I am not a traitor to the United States, I hardly think it's worth it." . . Shortly after retiring again to Dodona Manor in 1951, he agreed to chair the American Battle Monuments Commission. And in 1953, upon becoming the first professional soldier to receive the Nobel Peace Prize, he typically credited it to others, telling reporters it was a tribute (quote) "to the American people." . . . Indeed, all of us veterans are proud to count General Marshall as one of us!

Our veterans have borne the cost of America's wars and stood watch over America's peace. Among the 42 million veterans of American wars, over 600 thousand died in battle and over 2 million were wounded. Today some 20 million living Americans wear the proud title of veteran. They include a few dozen survivors of World War I, over 3 million of World War II, 3 million of the Korean War, 8 million of the Vietnam War, and 2 million of the Wars in Iraq and Afghanistan.

Fortunate to have a number of veterans with us here today, I want to acknowledge them. . . so I ask all veterans present to please stand for us to recognize you? . . . (APPLAUSE). . . Thank you. . . Like Henry the Fifth in Shakespeare, we vets have a special bond with those with whom we've served. . . Trapped and outnumbered by the French army, Henry spoke to his men before the battle. His address is a classic in military legend: "For he today that sheds his blood with me shall be my brother" . . . And laying into slackers who'd avoided serving, he declared, "and gentlemen in England now abed . . . shall think themselves accursed they were not here." . .

Today, our soldiers, sailors, marines and airmen serve in 120 countries throughout the world during our ongoing conflicts in Afghanistan and Iraq. And the legacy of our veterans continues to inspire each of them to answer the call of duty. As we join in thanking our veterans for their service, let's applaud them not only for their past service, but the example they set for our current and future military. . . After the Korean War, our veterans returned home to a country indifferent to their service. . . After Vietnam,

our military faced scorn from some circles. . . Indifference and scorn have no place in our heroes' homecoming. . . Instead, let's show our gratitude by welcoming all of our heroes when they return to the cities and towns they have so bravely defended.

Now with the Global War on Terrorism, we cannot take our past peace and prosperity for granted. Our veterans know that freedom isn't free and that eternal vigilance is the price we must pay for our liberty. We must resolve to keep faith with our veterans as this nation fights and wins the Global War on Terrorism.

We must resolve to thank and support all our veterans for their outstanding and selfless service to our nation and to thank them not only today, Veterans Day, but every day. Remember our veterans and the price they paid physically, financially, and emotionally to keep this nation safe. . . And remember our troops, America's future veterans, sons and daughters, who have selflessly made the decision to defend our count and all it stands for.

Additionally, let's remember that veterans' families and military families have also paid the price for freedom. Though we may not be able to adequately thank our veterans, our soldiers, and their families, . . . we must always support them.

With your support, our soldiers, America's future veterans, will continue to honor their sacred duty of protecting our nation, our fellow citizens, and the freedoms we hold so dear.

Remember the Biblical questions: "Whom shall I send? and Who will go for us?" . . . And whoever answers with the Biblical reply of "Here am I. Send me" . . . will return a veteran. Let us honor that veteran and resolve on this Veterans Day to remember that he or she goes for us and deserves our support and respect.

TRIBUTE TO CHILD ADVOCACY CENTER AWARDEES

HON. DALE E. KILDEE

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, November 18, 2005

Mr. KILDEE. Mr. Speaker, I am pleased to stand before you today on behalf of one of my district's premier human service organizations, the Child Advocacy Center of Genesee County. On Thursday, November 10, the Center will hold its inaugural Awards Dinner, where they will acknowledge several individuals who have shown tremendous courage, kindness, and selflessness through acts of goodwill toward our young people.

Polly Sheppard will have the distinction of being awarded the first Volunteer of the Year Award.

The honor of the Mental Health Therapist of the Year Award will be presented to Penny Lantz.

The cooperation between the CAC and the Michigan Department of Human Services will be shown, as Linda Crouch and Director Denise Chambers will receive DHS Worker of the Year awards.

The CAC will recognize its friends in law enforcement, as Detective Matt Bade of the Burton Police Department, and Detective Diana Mills of the Mt. Morris Police Department will be honored as Police Officers of the Year. John Greene and Marcie Mabry will be honored as Prosecutors of the Year.

The Sponsor of the Year Award will be presented to the Ruth Mott Foundation.

Additionally, Dr. Edwin Gullekson will be honored as the CAC 2005 Physician of the Year.

Mr. Speaker, I applaud these wonderful men and women for all they have done for others. Through their actions, they ensure that our children are able to enjoy healthy, productive, and safe lives, and I ask my colleagues in the 109th Congress to please join me in recognizing their heroic efforts.

HONORING CUB SCOUT PACK 88 OF
THE BSA'S DES PLAINES VALLEY
COUNCIL AND THEIR 60
YEARS OF SERVICE

HON. DANIEL LIPINSKI

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, November 18, 2005

Mr. LIPINSKI. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in honor of Cub Scout Pack 88 of the Boy Scouts of America's Des Plaines Valley Council on their 60th anniversary.

In 1930, the Boy Scouts of America created a new opportunity called Cub Scouting for boys younger than Boy Scout age. A year-round, home-centered program used by chartered organizations, Cub Scouting emphasizes involvement between boys and their parents, adult leaders, and friends. In the multidimensional plan of the Boy Scouts of America, Cub Scouting is where it all begins.

For the past 60 years, Cub Scout Pack 88 has been a cornerstone of service in the Des Plaines Valley communities. They have combined fun with educational activities and life-long values. Parents and sons of Pack 88 spend quality time together going places, doing projects, talking, and reading. Pack 88 also provides a healthy, safe environment in which boys learn important values and develop self-confidence.

For these reasons, it is my honor to recognize Cub Scout Pack 88 on their 60th anniversary. I look forward to many more years of their continued service to our community and our youth.

DEFICIT REDUCTION ACT OF 2005

SPEECH OF

HON. ELIOT L. ENGEL

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, November 17, 2005

Mr. ENGEL. Mr. Speaker, the majority should be absolutely ashamed of the bill before us today. It is simply unconscionable that the majority is not only moving forward with reconciliation but that they are increasing cuts all under the guise of paying for Hurricane Katrina relief. Under their rules, they won't even allow amendments to this monstrosity—shutting down any meaningful opportunity of offering even slight improvements to this bill. The fact of the matter is that the irresponsible tax cuts for the wealthy have run our country's fiscal order into the red with over \$8 trillion in debt. Even before Hurricane Katrina, the budget resolution called for \$35 billion in cuts to programs for the poor to partially offset the \$106 billion in tax cuts in the same budget resolution. The math simply doesn't add up.

It is interesting that the majority continues to use terms like personal responsibility when justifying the draconian cuts to services, cruel penalties and cost sharing for the poor that will essentially block access to care while failing to exercise the same responsibility in their own fiscal disorder. The general fund of the Government of the United States is paid for with borrowed money, over \$1 billion a day. To make ends meet while continuing to pass tax cuts, we borrow heavily from China, Japan and other foreign nations, knowing full well our children and grandchildren will one day be saddled with our debt. In the meantime, they pretend we can shore up our economy with a few simple reforms that will have devastating consequences for the most vulnerable children, seniors and other impoverished people, which won't really affect the trillions of dollars of debt created by the majority's fiscal irresponsibility.

What is irresponsible are the billions of dollars in cuts the majority is making to the Medicaid program. We already have 45 million uninsured Americans. Without Medicaid and SCHIP, the percentage of uninsured Americans, including children, would be a lot higher. As we all know, health care coverage isn't meaningful unless it is accessible and comprehensive. The proposals included in this bill will undoubtedly prove to be a barrier to care as it permits States to significantly increase the amounts Medicaid beneficiaries payout of pocket for premiums and copayments for healthcare services, again, all in the name of personal responsibility.

Mr. Speaker, but what about the low-income mother trying to care for her family by stretching her budget to cover housing, electricity, clothing and now increased cost-sharing and copayments for medical care? Why are we setting her up for failure when she has to make choices between her medical care and her children and her utility bills, all important to the wellbeing of her and her family? How have we fulfilled our professional responsibility if we put her in the position of making these impossible choices? I can assure you, these mothers are as familiar with personal responsibility and strapped budgets as any Member of Congress in this room.

Part of the problem that I have with these proposals are that the "reforms" are budget driven in that the solutions offered are far less important than the anticipated savings associated with them. I urge this committee to scrap these massive changes to Medicaid. While there are certainly ways to modernize, improve, and reform this program, it must be done with the compassion and thoughtful consideration it deserves.

A sensible improvement to this bill would be to permit early treatment under Medicaid to those with HIV. Under current Medicaid rules, most HIV positive people must meet both an income standard and be disabled—by AIDS—before they can receive access to Medicaid provided care and treatment that could have prevented them from becoming ill so quickly. This policy runs counter to current Federal HIV treatment guidelines which call for early access to medical care and treatment including the use of combination antiretroviral therapy. Medical costs for those with advanced AIDS are significantly higher than costs for caring for HIV positive people, and this is a burden on the States' Medicaid budgets.

I offered an amendment in the Energy and Commerce Committee markup for Medicaid

reform to give States the OPTION of amending their Medicaid eligibility requirements to include uninsured, pre-disabled low-income people living with HIV. ETHA, which has been introduced by Leader PELOSI in prior Congresses and Senator SMITH and Senator CLINTON in the Senate, is modeled after the successful Breast and Cervical Cancer Prevention and Treatment Act, BCCA, that allows States to provide early access to Medicaid to women with cancer. Forty nine States have implemented the BCCA, designed to preserve health and prevent unnecessary and high-cost medical interventions. As with the BCCA, ETHA includes an enhanced Federal match rate of 65 percent to 83 percent to encourage States to participate in offering the services.

Although my amendment failed in committee, Senators CLINTON and SMITH successfully offered a demonstration version of the Early Treatment for HIV Act on the Senate floor. I tried to offer that amendment on the House floor but the Republican leadership would not permit any amendments. It is my fervent hope that this provision survives conference.

Outside of the jurisdiction of the Energy and Commerce Committee, on which I serve, are even more cruel cuts to working families and vulnerable populations. Billions in cuts to student aid programs, child support enforcement, foster care and SSI disability payments. They cut food stamps, eliminated nutritional school lunch and breakfast programs for hundreds of thousands of families and children—the list goes on.

Mr. Speaker, you should be ashamed to allow our Congress to even consider such proposals, let alone vote on them, while continuing to promote tax cuts for the wealthy. I vote "no" on this monstrosity and urge my colleagues to do the same.

DEFICIT REDUCTION ACT OF 2005

SPEECH OF

HON. ELIJAH E. CUMMINGS

OF MARYLAND

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, November 17, 2005

Mr. CUMMINGS. Mr. Speaker, I rise in opposition to the Budget Reconciliation Bill, H.R. 4241, reported on a partisan basis by the House Committee on the Budget.

My colleagues have already highlighted many of the harsh cuts that would be made in this bill. These include, but are not limited to, cuts in Medicaid spending of nearly \$12 billion, cuts in the student loan program of more than \$14 billion, \$840 million in cuts in the food stamp programs, \$4.9 billion in cuts to the State child support enforcement programs, \$577 million in cuts to the foster care program and \$470 million in cuts to the Federal housing rehab program.

Let's be very clear on this point. These cuts will do nothing to reduce our growing deficit and, despite what many Republicans have tried to claim, they will not offset the costs we will rightly incur to recover from the catastrophic devastation of Hurricanes Katrina and Rita.

In fact, while cutting almost \$50 billion in much needed social programs for the most needy, the bill "reconciles" another \$70 billion